

# Woodchuck Chatter



Volume 3, Issue 6

## Special points of interest:

- Photos of Last Meeting
- Random Shots:
- Woodchuck News
- What's Coming Up

June 8, 2006

## Meeting on June 15, 2006

We go to the Jericho Forest Preserve for a field trip. Ralph and the staff of the Preserve will help us identify and understand the raw materials which we depend upon for much of our turning. The program content is subject to change.

### DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From Burlington, take I-89 South to exit 11 (Richmond), turn left off the exit ramp going under the interstate and turn right onto Rt. 117. Travel for about 3 miles down Rt. 117 and take a right onto Barber Farm Road. About a 1/2 mile down Barber Farm Road take a right

onto Tarbox Road. Tarbox is a dirt road and may be in poor condition during the rainy/mud season. About a 1/2 mile down Tarbox the road forks, bear to the right and this road will lead you to the UVM house on the Jericho Forest property.

## Sightings, Good News, Etc.

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### Woodchuck Donation:

For several years our chapter has made an annual donation on behalf of our members to the WOOD TURNING CENTER which has as its mission the local, national and international education, preservation and promotion of wood and other lathe-turned art.

The WTC is located at 501 Vine St. Philadelphia, PA. tel. 215 923 8000. Visitors are most welcome. The Center has a gallery featuring the finest in wood-turned art. You can also visit their web site at

[www.woodturningcenter.org](http://www.woodturningcenter.org)

Ted

### Woodchuck sightings

Ted Fink will be turning Cherry ice cream bowls outside the Ben and Jerry's factory in Waterbury Wednesdays July 5th and 19th as well as August 2nd and 23rd. (10 to 5 each day).

### Al Confirms Aug. 26th

Hi Ted,

I finally had a chance to look at my calendar & Sat. Aug 26 would work best for me. Let me know if that works for the club. Also, when I was at the recent NH symposium I spoke with Alan Lacer. He said he was told by the club (He didn't remember the person) that they could not pay him to give an evening demo because it might upset some club members who donate their time. Assuming I'm one of those people, I want to make clear that I'm happy to donate the demo I do as a way to support the club & I would not resent it if the club paid other demonstrators (in fact I'd welcome it). I have so many other things to do that I don't give anything to the club except the once a year demo/talk. I'd feel bad if I was partly responsible for stopping the club from having paid demonstrators. I just wanted to put my two cents in here.

Take care,  
Al

### Ted Replies:

Al,  
That date sounds good. I will have Ralph check with the Jericho Forest Reserve people. Also thanks for clarifying your position vis a vis the paying of outside demonstrators. We so appreciate Michael Mode's and your generous donation of time and effort we did not want to do anything to offend either of you.



## Random Shots

### Woodchuck Chatter

### Woodchuck Turners of Northern Vermont

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Woodchuck Chatter will be published monthly. Deadline for submissions is the 7th of the month. Please E-mail all submissions to the Editor in text or Word format. Visuals can be submitted as JPEG or TIFF.

#### Attitude...

I'm trying to explain to myself why I do what I do. I suppose a few years in analysis might help. I look constantly for something to intrigue me, to motivate me into creating something. My turning isn't the only place where I sometimes need a kick start. I don't like to do production work, partially because I can't seem to do an identical run of objects, partially because (thanks to early misdeeds) I now hate to stop a project before it's

completed. I might not get back to it. So, I'd much rather swan around pretending to be an *artiste* than to emulate Nick Cook, a production turner I greatly admire.

I'm somewhat lazy, so I rarely go hunting for inspiration. I let it come to me. Cil & I took a week off in May and drove down the Blue Ridge. Unlike other trips down Skyline Drive & the Blue Ridge Parkway, this time it was the destination, not the path. It was the height of

the wildflower season and Cil had a ball photographing and identifying. I just enjoyed her enthusiasm, having lost interest in photography as my art muse.

We stopped at several places to get info and supplies. One stop was totally out of the way. They had closed a mile of the parkway for repairs. To get from the northern end to the southern end was a 30-mile detour. Just at the southern end of the north half, was the park-

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Secretary's Report

27 members in attendance

#### Old Business:

Reminder to bring in pen kits to avoid purchasing additional kits for the next deployments.

#### New Business:

annual picnic will be held at the Jericho Research Forest on

Future demos: June- wood and tree identification.

July- turning toys featuring Dick Montague & Bob Bouvier

Sept.- dust collection

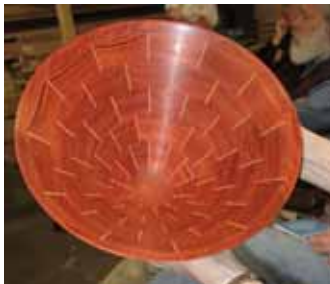
Oct.- annual elections

#### Show & tell:

Hav Smith- maple burls



Ralph Tursini- black cherry burl



Russ Fellows: segmented bowls



August 26th. Al Stirt will present his method of making a bowl from start to finish.

VT Wood Products Show will be held June 16-18(?) in Royalton VT at the law school.



Ken Gadway- natural edge cherry burl, natural edge butter-nut bowl, black walnut vessel



Randy Ramsden- spalted maple

We welcome new member Bob Bauer of Willsboro, NY .

**Craig Hall**



This is one of Mary's own pieces. It was finished with one of the products and much used as a salad bowl.

Sutherland Welles, Ltd. is a local manufacturer of fine Tung-oil based wood finishes. Mary Goderwis is, naturally, more fond of finishing wood than of making shavings. Her talk to us was an education in the nature and use of penetrating finishes.



A major concern is toxicity in finishes. Is there any reason to avoid using

Tung oil on salad bowls? The answer is that once any solvents have sublimated, and the solids have cured, there is no danger. Provided no metallic dryers are used in the formulation, no toxic salts should remain. Nevertheless, manufacturers won't accept liability because they can't control the use of the product.

Mary does recommend use of their "botanical" line for wood used as utensils as the solvent is citrus based. The line is formulated in several degrees of gloss, so as an artist you can match the finish to your own esthetics.

Application: Use a soft, lint-free cloth (or Scott's paper shop towels—excellent!) & hand apply wet. Turners should apply with lathe stopped. Let it soak in, keeping the surface wet for 5

minutes or so. After that, wipe dry and let cure. Bleed back will probably happen so use mineral spirits and 4-aught steel wool to buff down the speckle. Different items in the line have different application techniques, so READ THE INSTRUCTIONS.

Mary recommends that buying small quantities of their finishes is the best choice for non-production shops as oxidation starts to cure the product as soon as it is opened. They have many sizes of container and their instructions are very helpful. For more information, contact Sutherland Welles Ltd., PO Box 1387, Morrisville, VT 05661. Phone: 800-322-1245; email [WWW.TUNGOILFINISH.COM](http://WWW.TUNGOILFINISH.COM)



Mary applies a coat of S-W finish.



The signature on this bowl is Luke Mann.



**In House Demos:**

**June: Field trip to Jericho Forest Preserve. Wood identification.**

**July: Workshop on toys for the Toy Cart. Dick Montague & Bob Bouvier**

**August: Picnic & Al Stirt at The Jericho Research Forest.**

**September: Nominations for Woodchuck Board**

**October: Elections**

**To Symposium Attendees:**

Please help your fellow AAW members in making the 2006 Symposium the best ever by volunteering to assist a demonstrator. The primary responsibility is operating the Video camera, which is vital to the success of each demonstration. Demo assistants will attend a short session to receive the director's instructions, familiarization with the camera and projector, and will receive a Tee shirt that identifies you as one of the team. Besides, you will have the best seat in the house! Most of you know that the AAW Symposiums have few paid workers. The big show is due to the hard work of hundreds of volunteers. Join in the fun of making the Louisville symposium happen. To volunteer send an email to:

[AAWhelp@hockenbery.net](mailto:AAWhelp@hockenbery.net)

Please include: Your name, phone number, e-mail address and number of sessions you will take. You may offer to assist in one to three sessions. Volunteers will receive machine-generated reply followed by an e-mail from James Darnell who is working hard to organize the demonstrator assistants. James and I both thank you,  
*Al Hockenbery - AAW Board of Directors*

**AAW Survey**

The AAW is taking a survey to help the board know what the members want. We need your input on a range of topics to help us set goals and implement programs. Please go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=840992174112> and fill in the survey. It only takes a couple of minutes. It is your organization, so let us know what you think.

Thanks  
*John Hill - AAW Chapters and membership committee*  
828-645-6633  
[johnrhill@charter.net](mailto:johnrhill@charter.net)

**AAW Chapters meeting and President's Forum**

There are three items that I would like to bring to your attention.

1. At the AAW Symposium in Louisville, we will have a meeting of all chapter representatives. We will discuss current and proposed programs that are in support of the chapters and will take your comments and ideas that can help the AAW better serve the chapters and therefore the members. If you have suggestions, it would be helpful if you sent me an email follow-up so that I have in writing exactly what you suggest. If you can not make the meeting, try to see if you have someone from your chapter to be there. The meeting will be from 8 till 9 AM, Friday morning in the Brown Room

on the 2nd floor of the East Tower of the Galt House.  
2. We have a very valuable tool available to us in the form of a Chapter President's Forum on the AAW website. If you have not been visiting it lately, go to <http://www.woodturner.org/vbforum/forumdisplay.php?f=7> and check it out. Then save this URL address for future and frequent use. It is a place where you can create a thread asking a question relating to chapter activities and other chapter presidents can reply, sharing their answers. There is really no need for any chapter to have to "re-invent the wheel". You can share things that have really worked for you and help other chapter presidents in doing a better job serving their members. The more that you participate, the more that you will get out of it.  
3. I have attached a link below that when clicked, will open the data base on the AAW web site that shows all information that we have on your chapter. Open it and review all of the boxes and check for accuracy. Make any corrections and then at the bottom of the form, click "save". I hope to see you in Louisville.  
*John Hill - AAW Chapters and Membership Chairman*  
828-645-6633  
[johnrhill@charter.net](mailto:johnrhill@charter.net)

**Random Shots continued**

*(Continued from page 2)*

way/state craft center, much like our Frog Hollow. At the northern end of the south half is the campground we were headed for. The craft center closed when we got there, so we had to detour to the campground overnight, detour back to the craft center the next morning, then detour again to continue our southward journey.

10 years ago, such a request would have been met by a snarl and a sulk. We went into the craft center and I got an eyeful of very fine Treen and pottery. I tend toward more delicate work rather than heavy pieces and I was really happy we'd stopped. I ended up buying 3 pieces, one a small, stacked turned bowl. It's not made like Michael's or Ron Fellows' work.

The two pots have interesting shapes. All 3 pieces sit out where I can look at them daily. I have started to work using inspiration from those pieces.

Attitude... It makes a difference not only how you see things, but in how you react to them. Analyze yourself—Are you positive about what you see? It helps.

**Arny**

## Chestnut Follow-up

The finding by a scientist of a cove of healthy 40 year old American Chestnut trees near Pine Mountain GA. has been confirmed by wildlife biologists from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. They remain baffled however as to how these trees escaped the Chestnut blight.

## Liability Revisited.

During a meeting in 2004 I had made mention of forming a Limited Liability Company through the Ver-

mont Secretary of State's Office. While this is certainly an important step in shielding your woodturning business from liability it is not enough. It is also necessary to have any checking account and/or credit card that you use for the business to be used for no other purpose. In other words, you should not mix personal and business accounts because doing so would allow a lawsuit to go after your personal property as well in a legal maneuver called "piercing the corporate veil".

Ted Fink

## Treasurer's Report

Balance forward	\$2494.31
Income:	
Dues	\$20
Raffle	\$48
Expenses:	
Donation to Wood Turning Center	\$50
Balance	\$2512.31
(Pens Project remains \$205.82 in the red)	

Ted Fink

'I discovered I was holding a piece of American Chestnut (*Castanea dentata*).'



One humongous bowl!

## Policy on AAW Liability Insurance

Members of WTNV who are giving public demonstrations are covered by the AAW-sponsored liability policy under the following conditions:

You must be a member of AAW and WTNV.

The event must be "sanctioned" by WTNV. That is, you must notify the Treasurer, who will provide a copy of the cover sheet for the policy.

Notify the editor of Chatter so you can be listed in Future

Woodchuck Sightings.

The demonstration must have wood turning as the main subject.

Woodchuck Turners of  
Northern Vermont  
An associated chapter  
of  
American Association of  
Woodturners

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This Space For Mailing Label

## Policy On Borrowing The Club Lathe and Tent

This is the policy which was formulated at the October 2004 Board meeting. It was first printed in the October 2004 Woodchuck Chatter.

The primary goal in buying these tools is to have good equipment available so we can demonstrate in public, thereby attracting new members and recruiting would-be turners.

All members in good standing (paid up dues) are eligible to bor-

row the equipment primarily for demonstration purposes. We may borrow the equipment for ONE WEEK at a time. The Treasurer is responsible for knowing where the equipment is at any time; therefore the borrower is responsible to sign the equipment out—by phone or in person— and back in.

The lathe and its parts are a unit. Don't ask to borrow only the chuck or other parts.

The borrower is responsible for transporting the equipment to and from its storage location. The

borrower is responsible for returning the equipment in excellent condition with all its parts intact.

The borrower is responsible for any liability rising from the use of the equipment.

Only club members may operate our lathe to avoid litigation by untrained turners.

The Chapter has first dibs on all equipment so that we can show our stuff at public events.